

TOWN OF BECKET
ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: April 20, 2017
Time: 9:30am
Location: Becket Town Hall Becket Room
557 Main Street, Becket

Meeting Minutes

1. Garth called the meeting to order at 9:33. Meeting attendees were Al Blake, Bob Gross, Cathy DeFoe (acting secretary), Ed Gibson, Bill Girard, and Susan Purser.
2. The meeting minutes from March were approved.
3. Current business items:
 - a. We discussed the Coop Power organization usage of town owned property for town residents to form 25 kW max systems. We need to understand if 3 phase power is needed for this or not. Bob will follow up on this. This is still in process.
 - b. Ed discussed the ongoing high efficiency furnace and air conditioning units options. The 2nd most efficient system will be affordable. The expected decision for the HVAC system is expected by June 30, 2017.
 - c. Solar panels on the Town Hall roof(s) –The budget is very tight due to increases in various educational costs. There is no funding for solar roof panels this year. We will solicit another estimate from Co-Op power to see what the cost and benefit would be for this project. The committee will decide how to proceed once we have an updated estimate. Bob Gross will follow up with Isaac on this as well as the 3 phase link to 25 kW systems.
 - d. The Borrego solar project, a 7 megawatt PV system on Tanglewood Circle, is proceeding through the town board approval system. There are some conservation town by law and planning board issues with the proposed project.
 - e. We will have another info session in the fall tentatively September 9. The tax bill inserts will need to be done very soon. Garth will send out a proposed info session agenda so we can approve this at our May meeting. Once we determine the need for 3 phase power for the small coop PV systems, we can determine if there is more information to share with our community from Co-op Power. Garth will contact Nexamp about participation in our fall info session. Cathy will contact Jim Barry from the DOER to see if he can participate again this year.
 - f. The BWS status for participation in community solar – Garth is going to check on this.
 - g. We also reviewed Sun Watt Energy Group/Ameres Co the developer considering PV installation on this 36 acres in the former Jacobs Well property. The town is interested in using approximately half of this property for town use as well, but both projects can be done on this property. This project would likely result in revenue for the town whether through sale or lease of the land

h. There will be an information exchange on April 27 at 6:30 at the Senior Center for all energy committees. Bob will attend and represent our committee's efforts. Ed will give Bob an update on our Green Community progress in time for this meeting.

4. Meeting adjourned at 10:18.

5. The next meeting date – May 25, 2017.

Chair Date

5/19/17